

Express Mail Label No.: EV312205424US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Paolo MANINI, et al. §
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Conf. No.: Not Yet Assigned § Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
§
Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned § Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
§
Filing Date: Herewith § Attorney Docket No.: 6023-173US
§ (BX2500M)

Title: SYSTEM FOR THERMALLY INSULATING TUBULAR BODIES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Enclosed are copies of each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or B, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The enclosed references were cited in an International Search Report (copy enclosed) dated October 15, 2002 from the European Patent Office concerning counterpart International Application No. PCT/IT02/00417 and cited and discussed at pages 1-3, 5 and 6 of the specification.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or B be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Paolo MANINI, et al.

January 5, 2004
(Date)

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Enclosures

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|---|---|----|---|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Form PTO/SB/08A | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Application Number | Not Yet Assigned |
| | | | | Filing Date | Herewith |
| | | | | First Name and Inventor | Paolo MANINI, et al. |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | Not Yet Assigned |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 6023-173US (BX2500M) |

| OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | |
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| Exr Initials | Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or country where published. | T ₁ |
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